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12 May 1988

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: William M. Baker  
Director, Public Affairs Office

SUBJECT: Trip to Independence, Missouri to Receive  
an Honorary Degree from Rockhurst College

1. This is background information for your trip to Independence, Missouri to receive an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Rockhurst College on Sunday, 15 May at the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (RLDS) Auditorium on 1001 West Walnut Street from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. A robe and mortarboard are reserved for you. Since the College is located in Kansas City, Missouri, but the commencement exercises will be held in Independence neither a breakfast nor luncheon is planned. A short press conference is scheduled after the commencement exercises. Phone: (816) 831-1000

2. Sixty-eighth Commencement Exercises of Rockhurst College, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon: You are requested to be at the main entrance of the auditorium on Walnut Street at 9:30 a.m. where you will be met by Assistant to the President, Reverend William W. Williams. He will escort you to the robing area in the lower level dining room. The academic procession will begin at 9:45 a.m., and you will march with the Dean of the School of Management, Dr. Sheldon Stahl. (See tab for biographies.) Faculty Marshalls will lead the procession and direct traffic at various turns. The faculty will precede the platform party. (See tab for list of Deans.) You will march down the center aisle of the auditorium, turn left to the rear of the platform, ascend the platform and sit in the front row of the section reserved for dignitaries on the right facing the audience. (See tab for sketch of auditorium) You will be seated with the following:

Sister Gertrude Patch, R.S.C.J.

Reverend Robert F. Weiss, S.J.  
Dr. Thomas J. Trebon

Most Reverend John L. May

Dr. Sheldon Stahl (on your left)  
Reverend Maurice E. Van Ackeren, S.J.  
(on your right)  
Dr. Barbara Clemence

Sister Mary Margaret Sneddon

Most Reverend John Sullivan

Vice President, Rockhurst  
College  
President of Rockhurst College  
Dean, College of Arts and  
Sciences  
Archbishop, Roman Catholic  
Diocese, St. Louis  
Dean, School of Management  
Chancellor and former  
President Rockhurst College  
President, Dean of Research,  
College of Nursing  
Chief Administrator, Our Lady  
of Mercy Home  
Bishop, Kansas City, Missouri  
Diocese

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(See tab for biographies.) The other honorary recipients are Archbishop May (Doctor of Humane Letters) and Sister Sneddon (Pro Meritis Award).

Sister Patch opens Commencement and Father Weiss gives the President's address. Archbishop May will be the first to receive his honorary degree. After the Archbishop is seated and at approximately 10:30 a.m., Dr. Stahl will escort you to the right of the podium and microphone and read the citation. Father Weiss will present you with the diploma and Dr. Stahl will assist with placing your Rockhurst Hood. You are asked to give three to four minutes of remarks before returning to your seat. DCI Security will tape your remarks for the Agency's historical records. Dr. Stahl will remain with you at the podium during your remarks, but Father Weiss will return to his seat. Following your remarks Sister Sneddon will receive her award. This will be followed by a surprise ceremony honoring retiring president Father Weiss.

Degrees will be conferred on 520 graduates. Approximately 200 students will receive a BS degree in Business Administration and 165 MBAs. Bachelor of Arts, Science and Nursing are the other degrees that will be conferred.

The commencement will conclude with the recessional and the platform party will precede the faculty out of the auditorium. You will retrace the path followed in the procession.

3. Audience: Approximately 5000 family members, friends, faculty, and graduates will make up the audience. Facing the audience the graduates will be seated in the two front center sections. Press and special guests will be in the front section on the right. The official commencement and college photographers will be taking photographs. Reporters from the KANSAS CITY TIMES and THE CATHOLIC KEY are scheduled to cover the commencement.

4. Press Conference: After the recessional you will be escorted to the East Committee Room behind the auditorium for a short press conference. The KANSAS CITY TIMES reporter is scheduled to be present.

5. Background: According to the College you were selected as a candidate by the Board of Trustees for an honorary degree due to "the personal integrity with which you have served our nation and its citizens as a federal judge and as a leader of our country's law enforcement and intelligence gathering communities." Father Williams stated "what you have done in your life exemplifies the ideals of the school." (See tab for Board of Trustees list.) Among the college's honorary alumni are John F. Kennedy, Harry S. Truman, Arthur Burns, John Danforth, and Walter Cronkite.

Rockhurst College, established in 1910, is affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church (Society of Jesus), and offers undergraduate programs in business, education, health fields and arts and sciences. Approximately 75% of their 3000 student body are Catholic, 20% Protestant, and 10% are members of minority groups. The college has \$13 million annual budget and is located on a 25-acre campus in a residential area of Kansas City. (See tab for background information.) The Reverend Thomas J. Savage, assistant academic vice president at Fairfield University in Connecticut, will become Rockhurst College's 11th president in October. Father Savage is in Australia and will not attend the commencement exercises. (See tab for background information.)

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Our contact with Rockhurst has advised us of the possibility that a mild expression of disapproval with CIA activities may come from members of the community in the form of individuals wearing arm bands and passing out leaflets. We have been assured that this has nothing to do with you personally, but is an outgrowth of issues raised by the Iran-Contra investigation.



William M. Baker

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS/CONTACTS

Trip to Independence, Missouri  
To Receive  
Honorary Degree from Rockhurst College  
Sunday, 15 May

#### Departure:

Information not available

#### Sunday, 15 May

9:30 a.m. Arrive, Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints  
(RLDS)  
1001 West Walnut Street  
Independence, Missouri  
Phone: (816) 831-1000  
Met by Reverend William W. Williams, Assistant to the President  
Rockhurst College  
Robing, lower dining room

9:45 a.m. Academic procession

10:00 a.m. Commencement Exercises

10:30 a.m. President of Rockhurst College, Reverend Robert Weiss confers  
Honorary Doctor of Laws degree  
The Honorable William H. Webster  
Remarks (3-4 minutes)

12:00 noon Conclusion  
(approx.)

12:05 p.m. Press Conference, East Committee Room

12:30 p.m. Depart

Further information not available at this time.

#### Contact phone numbers at Rockhurst College

Father Williams (816) 926-4250  
Assistant to the Vice President, Mrs. Ursula Pfahl  
(816) 926-4060

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